

Staying Cool On The Job





With the arrival of summer heat comes the increased risk of heat-related illnesses (HRI) for EMS providers. Common types of heat-illnesses include heat exhaustion, heat cramps, heat stroke and muscle breakdown.





Prepare. Check the weather prior to your shift and mitigate heat stress early.



Protect. Wear a hat and breathable clothing that provides you protection from the sun.



Appropriately Hydrate. Using water and electrolyte drinks, hydrate before, during and after your shift.



Stock up. Have sufficient chilled water, electrolyte drinks and ice packs on hand.



Take Breaks. Schedule time to rest, rehydrate, and cool-off in shade or air conditioning if possible



Teamwork. Look out for your fellow crew members for signs of HRI and make sure they are hydrating.



